

The Sun.

TUESDAY, JULY 4, 1893.

If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for publication wish to have their articles returned, they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

Advertisements for THE WEEKLY SUN, issued on Thursdays, must be handed in this evening before 6 o'clock.

The Fourth of July.

The anniversary of the Declaration of Independence continues to be the chief of American holidays. The Revolution recedes from us into the past, and its heroes are not the commanding figures and ideal characters they were before the civil war; but this day, commemorative of the first great step toward the establishment of a distinct and individual American nationality, remains fresh in the public regard.

When the Congress of the thirteen colonies declared their independence of Great Britain, in 1776, this national sentiment existed only as a germ. The spirit of independence still prevailed, and throughout the Revolution the patriots had to contend against it. Of faith in democratic government there was almost none. Even after independence had been won, the heaven of aristocratic ideas remained, and the party which would have given to Washington at least a semblance of royal prerogative was strong. Fear of trusting the power to the people was well founded, and it continued to manifest itself long after the establishment of the Union, in laws restricting the exercise of the suffrage. A property qualification for voting was required in every State.

Later there arose a momentarily powerful party which sought to defeat the principle of universal suffrage, or government by the people, through the disfranchisement of the foreign born, though their own ancestry was foreign. They had not yet learned the lesson of democracy. They were still in a provincial environment. Gradually the restrictions on the suffrage were removed and the Know-Nothing movement was overcome.

Then followed the destruction of slavery, an institution utterly and absurdly anomalous in a democratic republic. The flood of foreign immigration began to pour in as never before. The States were bound together more firmly than ever by railroads, which made their material interests inseparable. The demonstration of the military strength of both the North and the South in the civil war, taught the people their national power, of which before they had been boastful rather than serenely confident in their proved self-sufficiency.

Thus actual independence, and the growth of a distinctive American democratic sentiment, have been of slow development; but to-day the evolution is further advanced than at any time in the past. A few dogmatic and skeptical critics of popular rule remain, but they are powerless. They may confine their faultfinding to particular features of that rule, municipal government, for example, but the old Tory spirit of distrust of the people animates them and annuls their influence. Democracy waxes stronger, and experience in government is a school wherein it is learning how best to govern.

Meanwhile the American people are improving both physically and intellectually. They are becoming a finer race and a more dominant. They are happier in temperament, and the characteristics distinguishing them from others are more pronounced. The national patriotism is stronger than ever. The unity among them is now complete for the first time in American history.

Causes of the American Revolution.

How it happened that on July 4, 1776, the Continental Congress at Philadelphia declared the independence of the thirteen colonies is a question which English, as well as American, writers have during the last twenty years reexamined from the viewpoint of the scientific historian. They have reached conclusions which do not, in some respects, materially differ from those previously expressed by certain American statesmen, and conspicuously by DANIEL WEBSTER; but they have set them forth in language free from any taint of partisanship or acrimony. As an example of dispassionate treatment of the subject, we may fittingly on this anniversary call attention to a remarkable paper contributed by Prof. JAMES A. WOODBURN of the Indiana University to the Johns Hopkins studies in historical and political science.

The title of Prof. WOODBURN's essay, "Causes of the American Revolution," is somewhat narrow for the field that he explores. What he proves is that our assertion of independence was the outcome, first, of opportunity, next of indirect incentives of long standing, and, finally, of a proximate and direct cause. It is plain, indeed, that the peace of 1763, by which the colonies were relieved from the fear of Spanish aggression on the north and of French aggression on the south, furnished not the cause but the opportunity of the American Revolution. The rebounding of a bow when the string is cut, is due not to the withdrawal of the string, but to the bow's inherent elasticity. It is undoubtedly the presence of the French in Canada and of the Spaniards in Florida had exercised a powerful restraint upon separatist tendencies. Ground between the upper and the nether millstone, the colonies had had no leisure to brood over the grievances with which they had ample reason to reproach the mother country. But for those grievances, however, there would have been no separatist impulses to lead with, after the Seven Years' War had destroyed the empire of France upon this continent and consigned America to English civilization.

What were the strong incentives to separation which were of long standing, but which then for the first time became fully operative, and must, therefore, be accounted indirect causes of the Revolution? They were: first, the attempts of the royal Governors at arbitrary rule in America, and the contest and irritation arising over the question of the royal prerogative; secondly, the commercial restrictions imposed by the English Navigation Acts and Laws of Trade, and their obviously mischievous effects upon colonial interests. When in 1835, Sir EDMUND BURKE came to America, with the intention of depriving certain colonies of their charters, the colonists resisted on precisely the same grounds which their descendants took nearly a century later, claiming for themselves the ancient rights of Englishmen, guaranteed by their charters, and denying the right of the mother country to interfere in their internal affairs. To many students of that epoch it has seemed reasonable to say that, had there been 2,000,000 people in America in 1685, instead of 200,000, revolution would have occurred a hundred years earlier. There was nothing exceptional in the conduct of Americans; on the contrary, it was repre-

sentative. For a century before separation took place, there had been contests more or less important between the power of the royal Governors and the popular colonial party in the Assemblies. The steady aim of the Governors was to check the growth of popular powers, and the steady purpose of the Assemblies was to uphold what they deemed their constitutional rights. It is this long-continued friction and the antagonisms excited by it, which account for many of the incidents leveled against the King in the Declaration of Independence: "When a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security." For specifications, the signers of the Declaration recited that the King had refused his assent to laws the most wholesome for the public good; he had forbidden Governors to pass laws of pressing importance; he had refused to assent to laws for the accommodation of the people, unless the people would relinquish their right of representation; he had repeatedly dissolved Representative Houses for opposing royal invasions of popular rights, and he had attempted to make Governors and Judges dependent upon his will alone for their tenures and salaries. In a word, the long experience of the colonists in their contests over the prerogative and in their resistance to arbitrary rule, had furnished a preparation and a motive for severance from the mother country.

The second ancient and serious grievance which figures, as we have said, among the indirect causes of the Revolution, was the commercial restrictions upon the colonies. From CHARLES, in 1630, to GEORGE III., in 1763, we encounter a persistent series of measures designed to trammel the commercial and industrial activities of the colonists for the benefit of the parent State. The colonists were confined to the British dominions for their market. They could carry no goods from Europe to America which had not been first landed in England. All forms of colonial manufactures which could possibly compete with those of England were crushed. In the interest of English sugar plantations, the importation of sugar and molasses and rum from the French West Indies was forbidden. Then, again, for the sake of a few merchants carrying on trade with Virginia, the colonies were deprived of their sole and exclusive right of the remittance of it to England, and yet were repeatedly forbidden to issue the paper money rendered necessary for their internal commerce. In view of these things some writers have insisted that to release trade and labor from such restrictions was the object of the Revolution. One historian has said that, "but for the policy which oppressed the commerce and inhibited the use of the waterfalls of New England, the dispute would have been left to posterity." DANIEL WEBSTER affirmed that "whoever has looked deeply into the causes which produced our Revolution has found the original principle far back in this claim on the part of England to monopolize our trade, and in the attempt to force on the colonies the right to resist or invade that monopoly."

Nevertheless, the evidence seems incontrovertible that, had the tact and wisdom displayed by WALPOLE and CHATHAM continued to mark the conduct of British Ministers; had no fresh and stinging provocation been given to the colonists; the old tendencies to separation might have long remained latent and inoperative, and the opportunity offered by the extinction of the fear of French aggression might have been neglected for many a decade. It was only, said BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, when England, after the Seven Years' War, asserted the right of domestic taxation by Parliament, that the Americans began to revolve in their minds those ancient grievances which, from their respect and love to England, they had long submitted to and seemed acquiescent in. On the other hand, on the occasion FRANKLIN testified that the temper of the Americans toward Great Britain at the close of the Seven Years' War was the best in the world. Even JAMES OTIS, who, two years before, had thundered against the Writ of Assistance, proclaimed in 1763 the love of all Englishmen in America for the mother country, their pride in the glory of the English name, and declared that "what God in His providence had joined together, no man should dare to pull asunder." It was the new Ministerial policy with regard to colonial taxation announced by GREVILLE in 1764; it was the Stamp Act and the vindictive and oppressive measures which followed it, that irreparably alienated the colonies from the mother country, and that, by the refusal to recognize their former wrongs, and led directly to the independence of America. That is why the Stamp Act is pronounced by LECKY, when its ultimate consequences are considered, one of the most momentous pieces of legislation in the history of mankind. It may be true that, by severe accuracy of definition, by a refinement of reasoning, and by the letter of the law, it is impossible to prove that there was any distinction between taxing and other legislative acts in which the colonists had acquiesced. Nevertheless, it is admitted by LECKY that, by the constitutional traditions and usages of the English people, such a distinction was clearly recognized. It is on this point that he concedes that the Stamp Act "though it was by no means as unjust or unreasonable as has been alleged, did unquestionably infringe upon a principle which the English race, both at home and abroad, have always regarded with peculiar jealousy." The doctrine that in free nations taxation and representation are inseparably connected, and that no people can be legitimately taxed, except by themselves or their representatives, lay at the very root of the English conception of political liberty. It is true that the Stamp Act was presently repealed, and the result that, for the moment, the clamor of the colonists was hushed. But when TOWNSEND came to power in 1767, the policy was resumed; and the breach, which even yet might have been closed, was reopened, widened, and made irreparable by the unwise and unfortunate acts of Parliamentary coercion.

It is thus that Prof. WOODBURN outlines the opportunity, the indirect incentives, and the direct and proximate cause of the American Revolution. The range of his essay does not permit him to discuss the profound underlying moral forces, of which the Declaration of Independence has seemed to many students of political philosophy, the natural and inevitable outcome. Unquestionably, the measures and the movements, whose relative importance he endeavors to weigh and to define, may be regarded as, after all, only the flower and fruitage of moral influences whose roots lay deep in the social structure and dominant ideas of the mother country on the one hand, and of the colonies upon the other. An upheaval so general and spontaneous, as was that which culminated in 1776, is not to be accounted for by a fact so simple and isolated as the imposition of a tax. That would be like explaining the tre-

mondous revolution which demolished the ancien régime in France by the existence of a deficit in her treasury. Such incidents are rather occasions than causes. They are like the rifts in a sea wall, which, trivial in themselves, give ingress to an overwhelming flood.

How the Victoria Was Lost.

The official story of the disaster off Tripoli is at last told, and until a detailed investigation of the affair is held by the court martial already called at Portsmouth, nothing further of consequence is likely to be made known as to its main features.

While public judgment upon the command of the officer who is no longer living to speak for himself, will neither be harsh nor lenient, it must be said that all the evidence tends to the belief that the primary error which led to the disaster was Vice-Admiral TRYON's own mistake in ordering the execution of a maneuver when there was not sufficient distance between the columns to perform it. The two divisions were six cable lengths apart. As a cable length is one-tenth of a sea mile, or about 608 feet, the distance between them was about 3,650 feet, or not quite three-fourths of a statute mile, when the order was given by Admiral TRYON for the first division to port and the second to alter sixteen points to starboard. Rear Admiral MARKHAM reports that, as he considered the distance inadequate for the purpose, he indicated from the Camperdown that the signal was not understood, but, before he could request an explanation, was asked by signal from Admiral TRYON what he was waiting for. Trusting to his superior, he then obeyed the order, and the crash followed.

It may be suggested that the position in which Admiral MARKHAM is placed does not make him a disinterested witness as to the cause of the disaster. But the testimony of the Victoria's officers confirms him in the essential point. Capt. BOWEN, commanding that vessel, says that when the original formation in two divisions was ordered, he and Staff Commander SMITH were in Admiral TRYON's cabin. The Admiral explained his proposed maneuvers, and said the columns were to be six cables apart, whereupon Commander SMITH suggested that eight cables would be better, and the Admiral said: "Yes, it should be eight cables." Yet, when the order was issued, it proved to be six cables, and accordingly Commander SMITH sent to remind the Admiral that he had decided on eight, but the answer came to let the distance remain at six. Lord GUILFORD, Flag Lieutenant of the Victoria, confirms absolutely this version of the story, saying that it was to him that the Admiral gave directions to make the distance six cables; that thereupon Commander SMITH told him that the Admiral wished the distance to be eight cables, and not six; finally, that he informed the Admiral of what Commander SMITH had said, and got for an answer that the distance was to be six cables.

But was this distance too small for safe maneuvering? On this point there will be, first, the testimony of experts at the court martial, and then an examination of the question whether there was any hesitation or delay or any other fault of execution, the absence of which might have prevented the collision. Of this latter, however, there has hitherto been no indication, and even if there were such a fault, it could hardly be said, with the conclusion that the primary cause of the disaster was TRYON's order.

The question whether anything could have been done to lessen the magnitude of the loss of life will be for investigation by itself. The evidence seems to be strong that the engines were reversed as soon as could have been expected when the collision seemed inevitable. Admiral TRYON's signal to the other vessels, which were getting out their boats for rescue, simply shows that he did not appreciate the peril of the Victoria, and expected to save her. As to the water-tight doors, it is made clear that they had been left open on both ships, and that the orders to close them were given only just before the collision. Whatever was the degree of success in executing these orders, apart from the question whether the damage was not fatal in and of itself, it appears evident that bulkhead doors should be kept closed during such maneuvers, and indeed in all possibilities of a perilous collision with ship or shore.

The Republican War Map.

New proposals, specifications, and plans for the Republican campaign continue to pour in, and we hope to be able to give a complete account of the proposed operations. Most of the military experts who have been consulted, seem to agree with the *Democrat and Chronicle* that the campaign must be long, must be directed against the citadels of Tammany, and must be accompanied with a tremendous beating upon the big bass drum.

It is a joyous sight in the leafy month of June to see the old Republican war horses and the bounding Republican colts pawing the ground nervously, and waiting to hear the slogan of the day. Edifying it is to see our philosophic-minded neighbor, the *Tribune*, tempering the heat of the young recruits with sage maxims drawn from the archives of experience. The *Tribune* very politely observes that the Rochester declaration of the purpose of the Republicans of western New York to prosecute an aggressive campaign is "a gratifying piece of intelligence." More gratifying than novel, certainly, and yet anybody who is gratified thereby must be easy to please. In what year of seven is it not the purpose of the Republicans of western New York and of the rest of New York to prosecute an aggressive campaign? The trouble with them is the same as the Hon. WILKINS' MICAWBER complained of in his son: their intentions may be excellent, but they never carry them out. Or else their notions of aggressive warfare are so memorably illustrated by the Hon. JOHN PIERCE, when he held his opponent pinned to the ground by the point of the PHOENIX nose firmly inserted between said opponent's teeth. They don't aggress, they regress, a direction of motion which seems scarcely satisfactory; but tastes differ.

The gratifying piece of intelligence, however, reveals to the *Tribune* that its friends in western New York "have determined to make the most of the fine opportunity which presents itself of achieving a victory for their party, and therefore for the cause of good and progressive government." We can see the tears rushing over the cheek of the Hon. FRANKLIN SINN GRANT, moustache like the waters of Niagara. His better nature is stirred by the manly chest of the fallen, but still high old torch of the "Tribune"; and the Hon. JACOB PATTERSON, he goes to his chamber, and weeps. But a true to idle tears; this is an expedition in search of the Republican campaign. "In this determination," continues our philosophic neighbor, "they may be sure they will have the hearty support of the Republicans of the me-

topolis, and of the rest of the State." Well, they may be sure, but don't they wish they were! The western New York Republicans may be sure, if they like, that the Hon. GEORGE ZIEBUBERLE ERWIN is more beautiful than the Hon. APOLLO BROWNE. It is easy enough to live in the world with no nothing is but what is not; still this is marshy ground for political searches.

"The general feeling seems to be that we have much to gain and nothing to lose by an early Convention and a long campaign." Why, this is the very quintessence and permacan of truth. The New York Republicans can't lose anything, because they haven't anything to lose. The same considerations would seem to apply to a late Convention; but "Republicans, rank and file, are conscious that the more the Republican record is examined, either on its own independent merits or in competition with the Democratic record, the better will be the prospect for Republican success at the November ballot." It may be so, but there is a saying of HENRY OF ASCRA or GEORGE STRANES of CHLOPEA, or some other gnome poet: "Fish and Republican records will not stand keeping too long." It is none of our business, perhaps, but it has often seemed to us that if the New York Republican party could go into a campaign with its record, travelling incognito like a Serene Highness, its chances of success would be increased by many per cents. The Republican record made it possible for the Democrats to get control of the State and put an end to the long injustice of minority rule; and the record has not been forgotten. But let us observe the *Tribune* and the very fine line of something wrong with this abominably strong drink of wormwood.

"An aggressive fight is the sort of fight which the Republicans will be compelled to wage if they expect to make the necessary headway against the Democracy. A perfunctory canvass, a canvass which runs round a business as usual, will not do. We can only win by a resolute, persistent fight in every school district. It would be absurd folly to undertake the strength of our opponents. They are strongly indicated at Albany, and about the State. They are in possession of all the State offices which are to be filled this fall. They control both branches of the Legislature, and to help them to retain their power they have bought the gerrymander which was lately put through the Legislature. In the circumstances, the task of beating them is necessarily a big contract, not so big as to discourage Republicans, but big enough to convince them that they cannot afford to neglect the cause of the people. They cannot afford to be other than earnest and united in any district."

The contract is large, since the "gerrymander" has given the Democrats something a little like the representation in the Legislature to which their numbers entitle them. The *Tribune* can find no ground for a more optimistic view of Republican prospects than that if the candidates and organizers of the campaign are the men of the campaign, and the party is harmonious as harmony and as earnest as dynamite, the Republicans need not be discouraged. But they are discouraged. If there was not other reason enough for their depression, the cold and cruel words, "We can only win by a resolute, persistent fight in every school district," would be a deadly dampener of Republican hope. This is a sort of formula for letting the Republicans down easily. When notice is served that the fight must be carried into every school district, the Republican in Sullivan county begins to think more about the time when the bears are going to "hole in" than of the election; and the "Republican below Fourteenth street" whistles cheerily and warily wets his whistle. He knows that the Republican crop next fall will be small potatoes.

It is interesting to notice that the *Tribune*'s plan of campaign leaves out the terrible approach against the Tammany citadel threatened by the Rochester warriors. We noticed the other day the charge made by the *Richmond Times* that Mr. CLEVELAND intends to make Federal appointments in Virginia for the purpose of influencing the Democrats in their choice of candidates for Governor and for Senator in Congress. The *Richmond Dispatch* is not inclined to look upon Mr. CLEVELAND with intertemperate admiration. The *Baltimore Sun*, on the other hand, has been questioning in its enthusiasm. We are therefore surprised to find by the *Richmond Times* that Mr. CLEVELAND is a factor in State elections, in which the interference of Federal officeholders in the Democratic conventions of Maryland is taken for granted:

"As there is no United States Senator to be elected next year, there is not even the usual pretext for selecting men to represent the State in the Legislature, according to their preferences for one Senatorial candidate or another. Nevertheless, it would be a very simple and guileless person who should, therefore, suppose that Federal offices and the patronage of the Federal Government are to be used for the purpose of securing a controlling one. In State politics and elections this year. The question is not whether it ought to be, or whether it is decent and proper that the choice of a man for the Legislature should be influenced by the prospective distribution of Federal offices, Postmasterhips or places in the Custom House, but simply how far it will be so influenced and controlled."

The *Baltimore Sun* goes on to say that Mr. CLEVELAND's "worst enemies have never charged him with making use of the patronage at his disposal for the purpose of furthering his own interests or ambitions," and yet it is aware that the promise of Federal appointments is now used in Maryland and other States as a consideration for votes in political conventions:

"It cannot seem otherwise than passing strange to find in States where State elections are about to occur, promises and pledges of future Federal preferment daily used and hawked about as inducements to vote for one candidate or another. It is not as if the persons herebefore not in any way known or distinguished as friends of Mr. CLEVELAND. Of course, it will be said, and with truth, that this is done without Mr. CLEVELAND's authority, and that nothing could be more repugnant to Mr. CLEVELAND's feelings and views than to know that political bargains are now made by politicians in Maryland or in any other State, the subject-matter being the sale of such and such a valuable piece of Federal patronage in return for such and such political services, which he as President, or his heads of departments or appointees, will in turn be called upon to ratify and honor."

In view of the Mugwump loves of our Baltimore contemporary, it would not be cynical to surmise from all this squawk and flutter that its friends in local politics fear defeat, and are yelling "Wolf!" In consequence, can it be that there is any such general demoralizing use of the Federal patronage as is here described? Can it be that the Administration and its leading officers so far forget the province of the Federal Government and its agents as to seek to make or mar State and local politics by Federal appointments or the promise of them? If Mr. CLEVELAND has set the example by declaring his intention of interfering with the Virginia Democracy, as the *Richmond Times* asserts, the Federal officeholders may consider themselves as having preferred the protection in the practice of meddling improperly with State politics; but in the absence of specific proofs it seems best to ascribe most of the talk about improper interference to the bluff or blarney of rival politicians watching one another jealously as the time for the conventions approaches.

Moreover, Mugwumps like the *Baltimore Sun* are inclined to deny to a Federal officeholder the ordinary rights of a citizen, and

to warn him away from political conventions altogether. An undue prominence of Federal officeholders in State conventions, however, or an undue zeal on their part in behalf of certain candidates is likely to discredit those candidates and the Administration. Any overt acts of this sort would be severely punished by public opinion; but the Administration, not the offending officeholders, will suffer if the Administration makes excursions into State politics.

Liberty of proper political conduct to every Federal officeholder; but no combination of Federal officeholders, under the direction of the Administration, for the purpose of coercing any man's political policy or interfering with the free choice of candidates in any State, county, city, town, village, hamlet, cross-roads, or jumping-off place, or in any political caucus, convention, or meeting whatsoever!

More Work for the Axe.

Heads have been falling fast in the Treasury Department offices of the far Northwest, particularly in the Puget Sound and Bellingham districts.

Smuggling of both Chinese and opium, has been carried on in that region to such an extent, of late years, as to be a national scandal. Puget Sound, with its vast extent, its numerous islands where a small boat may temporarily land her passengers or her contraband goods, and its proximity to Victoria, offers very great advantages to this illicit traffic. The rich rewards for those who are successful in it make them take great risks. As for opium, the heavy duty on it and the comparative ease with which it is concealed in small packages make the unlawful introduction of it constant and in the aggregate enormous. We find cases of the bold landing of Chinamen further down the coast, also.

But, as this was not enough, the neglect and incompetency, if not the collusion, of some Federal officers are said to have aided this smuggling. Special Agents WOOD and LEWIS have been making investigations for Secretary CARLISLE, and the Secretary seems to have become convinced that if he is to break up this business, he must have to help him subordinates whom he knows about and is willing to be responsible for, rather than those who have come to him from years past, and for whom he cannot vouch.

Many removals have been made among the special inspectors and also among higher officers in the Puget Sound region. The GREAT law was enacted chiefly on the ground that, in spite of the stringency of the existing exclusion acts, Chinamen were smuggled into the country by thousands, so that the registering of those here was the only mode of determining who were the interlopers. Be that as it may, if official complicity or negligence aids this unlawful traffic, it is time for reform.

The President has been justified in putting on guard men whom he can trust, in place of those left over by the HARRISON Administration. HOKE SMITH is taking rank as the JOHN W. HANNAHER of the present Administration. He has more questions, more adroitness, and rather more than John; but he is not so sure as we must add that as the manager of a bargain counter he can give HOKER points and beat him out of sight every time.

The generation that has grown up since the times of the great war look with admiring eyes upon the Civil war veterans whenever they appear in uniform. The youthful warriors in their has again been made evident within the past two or three days, when the survivors of the regiments that once marched out of the city to the battlefield were seen upon the streets on their way to Gettysburg, where they fought thirty years ago in the first three days of July. No prettier sight was there here last Saturday than the small remnant of the 20th Maine regiment moving steadily along, wearing their blue jackets, red shirts, loose knee trousers, and white leggings, bearing the tattered flag which they had followed in twenty-eight battles, and inspired by the marching song of the 20th Maine. It was this body at the moment not because of its record, for every New York regiment at Gettysburg has a glorious record, but merely because its gay uniform struck the eye of the spectator more than that of any of the other bodies.

To the men of this generation under forty years of age, who know of the war only as a far-off incident, these veterans are not less impressive than they are to the men yet living who recall the events of the gigantic conflict; while to the patriotic boys and girls they are as legendary heroes. With pride the veterans bear the old-time comrades from all the States at Gettysburg, and with many soldiers they dwell upon the fallen soldiers of New York, in whose honor a noble monument has been raised.

The refusal of the Treasury Department to relieve a teamship company from its responsibilities under our immigration laws is just and proper. A Utah colonization company offered to ship 2,500 Jewish immigrants from Russia to that Territory if the Government would refrain from inspecting them upon their arrival at that port, and refrain from sending back those who did not meet the requirements of the law. Secretary CARLISLE promptly declined to grant this extraordinary request. He has not the power to grant it. The men who presented it must have been ill informed. The law which provides for inspection and for the exclusion of undesirable immigrants is imperative. It cannot be modified by any officer of the Government, or by any power other than that of Congress.

Question: Cannot you put a piece in *The Sun* that will stop the everlasting and tiresome talk of everybody about the weather? Answer: We do not desire to put a stop to this talk. The weather is a thing of abiding and practical interest to the whole people. It affects the health, the business, the crops, the industry, the pleasure, and the pleasure of the country. The state of it is important to everybody. People will continue forever to talk about it. It is in a theme of the first importance and interest.

The *Tribune* prints the answers it recently received from a large number of the Protestant clergymen of this city who have been asked where they intended to spend those months of summer in which they are relieved from church duties and are free to enjoy themselves. We judge that all of them mean to have a pleasant time while absent from the city. We are struck with the fact that none of the ministers of the Free Presbyterian Church, nor of any other Church have gone, or are going to Europe. Among the leading divines already there, or on the way there, are the Rev. DR. JOHN HALL, the Rev. DR. PARKHURST, the Rev. DR. HENRY VAN DYKE, the Rev. DR. MARSH SMITH, and the Rev. DR. DUNN, while others prefer to spend the air of the Adirondacks and the Rock Mountains, where there is game, or the seaside resorts, where there is good fishing, or the sylvan places, where life is very peaceful. Few of the Episcopal divines have chosen Europe; their favorite summer haunts for this year are among the mountains and the sea. In the Episcopal Church appear to favor New England, and so do those of the Reformed Church; while some of the Methodists like Europe, others the far West, and yet others the piney woods of Maine. The ministers of the less numerous churches have struck out in all directions to get relief from the heated atmosphere of the city.

It seems to us that nearly every one of the

Protestant clergymen of the city has made an excellent choice of a place of rest, recreation, or sport. We trust that they will all have a good time right straight along until they return to the city in the genial weather of September, or the crisp and bracing weather of October.

Our sporting contemporary, the *Spectator* of London, wants to have a "general treaty of arbitration" between this country and England, and a permanent tribunal to be made up of three Judges from the United States Supreme Court and three from the English Judicial Committee. Then comes a unique feature of arbitration. These six Judges are to take counsel in secret, and deliver the majority opinion as though unanimous, for the purpose of adding weight to it; and before taking their seats they shall solemnly draw lots to determine which Judges shall have two votes in case of a tie. Why not, in lieu of this lottery, submit every uncertain question to the late JOHN T. RAYMOND's favorite method, namely, the toss of a copper?

There has never been a full and complete record of the births in this city. There is reason to believe that over a thousand of those of each year are not reported at the Bureau of Vital Statistics, and there have been cases in which the result of this negligence was highly injurious to those concerned. Through an improvement in the method of collecting statistics of births which has been adopted by the Board of Health, we shall hereafter have good assurance of the trustworthiness of the record. To the sanitary police and inspectors is assigned the duty of watching the returns made by the doctors, midwives, and others, and securing such information as may lead to the prosecution of delinquents. This service should be performed with precision. It is to the public interest that a legal record of all births be kept.

THE VIRGINITY OF CHRIST'S MOTHER.

The Evidence Adduced to Sustain the Doctrine of the Catholic Church.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: A notice on Jewish history by Mr. A. Graetz, worked by M. W. H. in *THE SUN* of June 18, is very interesting as an instance of curious and illogical treatment of the subject of the virginity of the mother of Christ, involving the astounding doctrine of the virginity of the Blessed Virgin. Mr. Graetz takes the same ground as Roman, who in his *Vie de Jesus* (p. 23), asserts "Jésus avait des frères et des sœurs, dont il semble avoir été le plus jeune." (Jesus had brothers and sisters, of whom he seems to have been the youngest.)

Many removals have been made among the special inspectors and also among higher officers in the Puget Sound region. The GREAT law was enacted chiefly on the ground that, in spite of the stringency of the existing exclusion acts, Chinamen were smuggled into the country by thousands, so that the registering of those here was the only mode of determining who were the interlopers. Be that as it may, if official complicity or negligence aids this unlawful traffic, it is time for reform.

The President has been justified in putting on guard men whom he can trust, in place of those left over by the HARRISON Administration. HOKE SMITH is taking rank as the JOHN W. HANNAHER of the present Administration. He has more questions, more adroitness, and rather more than John; but he is not so sure as we must add that as the manager of a bargain counter he can give HOKER points and beat him out of sight every time.

The generation that has grown up since the times of the great war look with admiring eyes upon the Civil war veterans whenever they appear in uniform. The youthful warriors in their has again been made evident within the past two or three days, when the survivors of the regiments that once marched out of the city to the battlefield were seen upon the streets on their way to Gettysburg, where they fought thirty years ago in the first three days of July. No prettier sight was there here last Saturday than the small remnant of the 20th Maine regiment moving steadily along, wearing their blue jackets, red shirts, loose knee trousers, and white leggings, bearing the tattered flag which they had followed in twenty-eight battles, and inspired by the marching song of the 20th Maine. It was this body at the moment not because of its record, for every New York regiment at Gettysburg has a glorious record, but merely because its gay uniform struck the eye of the spectator more than that of any of the other bodies.

To the men of this generation under forty years of age, who know of the war only as a far-off incident, these veterans are not less impressive than they are to the men yet living who recall the events of the gigantic conflict; while to the patriotic boys and girls they are as legendary heroes. With pride the veterans bear the old-time comrades from all the States at Gettysburg, and with many soldiers they dwell upon the fallen soldiers of New York, in whose honor a noble monument has been raised.

The refusal of the Treasury Department to relieve a teamship company from its responsibilities under our immigration laws is just and proper. A Utah colonization company offered to ship 2,500 Jewish immigrants from Russia to that Territory if the Government would refrain from inspecting them upon their arrival at that port, and refrain from sending back those who did not meet the requirements of the law. Secretary CARLISLE promptly declined to grant this extraordinary request. He has not the power to grant it. The men who presented it must have been ill informed. The law which provides for inspection and for the exclusion of undesirable immigrants is imperative. It cannot be modified by any officer of the Government, or by any power other than that of Congress.

Question: Cannot you put a piece in *The Sun* that will stop the everlasting and tiresome talk of everybody about the weather? Answer: We do not desire to put a stop to this talk. The weather is a thing of abiding and practical interest to the whole people. It affects the health, the business, the crops, the industry, the pleasure, and the pleasure of the country. The state of it is important to everybody. People will continue forever to talk about it. It is in a theme of the first importance and interest.

The *Tribune* prints the answers it recently received from a large number of the Protestant clergymen of this city who have been asked where they intended to spend those months of summer in which they are relieved from church duties and are free to enjoy themselves. We judge that all of them mean to have a pleasant time while absent from the city. We are struck with the fact that none of the ministers of the Free Presbyterian Church, nor of any other Church have gone, or are going to Europe. Among the leading divines already there, or on the way there, are the Rev. DR. JOHN HALL, the Rev. DR. PARKHURST, the Rev. DR. HENRY VAN DYKE, the Rev. DR. MARSH SMITH, and the Rev. DR. DUNN, while others prefer to spend the air of the Adirondacks and the Rock Mountains, where there is game, or the seaside resorts, where there is good fishing, or the sylvan places, where life is very peaceful. Few of the Episcopal divines have chosen Europe; their favorite summer haunts for this year are among the mountains and the sea. In the Episcopal Church appear to favor New England, and so do those of the Reformed Church; while some of the Methodists like Europe, others the far West, and yet others the piney woods of Maine. The ministers of the less numerous churches have struck out in all directions to get relief from the heated atmosphere of the city.

It seems to us that nearly every one of the

Protestant clergymen of the city has made an excellent choice of a place of rest, recreation, or sport. We trust that they will all have a good time right straight along until they return to the city in the genial weather of September, or the crisp and bracing weather of October.

Our sporting contemporary, the *Spectator* of London, wants to have a "general treaty of arbitration" between this country and England, and a permanent tribunal to be made up of three Judges from the United States Supreme Court and three from the English Judicial Committee. Then comes a unique feature of arbitration. These six Judges are to take counsel in secret, and deliver the majority opinion as though unanimous, for the purpose of adding weight to it; and before taking their seats they shall solemnly draw lots to determine which Judges shall have two votes in case of a tie. Why not, in lieu of this lottery, submit every uncertain question to the late JOHN T. RAYMOND's favorite method, namely, the toss of a copper?

—In a room of a man killed by an electric bolt in St. Louis a coroner's jury was called to decide whether the bolt was natural or artificial.

—No-North, an Indian of the Umatilla tribe, has started a new business. He may carry in Kansas to seek his political fortune with the President.

—The slaughter family of Texas are said to be the most extensive landowners in America, their combined holdings amounting to half a million acres.

—It was at a flower show. Two women vividly printed coats stood before a group of exhibitors. One of them exclaimed, "Oh, Mandy, look at the chrysanthemums and chrysanthemums." The second china aster, "I am a flower show." They were in the midst of their conversation when a boy on roller skates, who, as he dashed past, dropped a coin in the slip of a blind musician.

—A Kansas man says that the value of farms went up, on an average, a thousand dollars apiece in his State last year, in consequence of the successful crops. This year, in consequence of the general drouth, the same farms have fallen away in value by about 10 per cent.

—Country places that have never known the luxury of a gas supply are very light and airy. It is when the lamps are placed near trees and the vivid illumination strikes over and through the leaves, making a halo of fresh green light, that the effect is most beautiful.

—In some parts of New Jersey appears a beautiful pink clover that seems to be a hybrid. It is a